REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 20 are pending in the case. The Examiner's reconsideration of the objections and rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and the remarks.

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been objected to as exceeding 150 words. The Abstract has been amended and no longer exceeds 150 words. Reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

Figures 1 and 2 have been objected to. The Examiner indicated that Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as – PRIOR ART – because only that which is old is illustrated. Proposed corrected drawings are attached hereto, wherein Figures 1 and 2 have been labeled - PRIOR ART -. Reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DeRose et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,983,248). The Examiner stated essentially that DeRose teaches all the limitations of claims 1-19.

Claim 1 claims, *inter alia*, "a second document processor for deriving external structure information between said plurality of related sub-documents in response to said control information." Claims 12 and 17 claim, *inter alia*, "a second document processor for compiling encompassing document structure information integrating related sub-document structure information." Claim 15 recites, *inter alia*, "an icon permitting User initiation of processing of related sub-document structure information to create an encompassing document structure derived by integrating related sub-document structure information into composite structure information."

DeRose teaches a system and method for generating representations, indexing and rendering an electronic document having a descriptive markup and hierarchical content (see col. 1 lines 17-25). DeRose does not teach "analyzing the structural relationship between said plurality of related sub-documents" as claimed in claim 1, "integrating related sub-document structure information" as claimed in claims 12 and 17, or "initiation of processing of related sub-document structure information to create an encompassing document structure" as claimed in claim 15. DeRose teaches generating a representation of a document received as input (see col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 9, and col. 16, lines 35-41). DeRose merely represents a single document having a descriptive markup in a new way. DeRose does not teach processing more than one document, much less a system or method for processing related sub-documents. Therefore, DeRose fails to teach "analyzing the structural relationship between said plurality of related sub-documents" as claimed in claim 1, "integrating related sub-document structure information" as claimed in claims 12 and 17, and "initiation of processing of related sub-document structure information to create an encompassing document structure" as claimed in claim 15.

Claims 2-11 depend from claim 1. Claims 13 and 14 depend from claim 12. Claim 16 depends from claim 15. Claim 18 depends from claim 17. Claim 19 has been cancelled. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for the respective independent claims. At least claims 14, 16 18 and 20 are believed to be allowable for additional reasons.

Claim 14 claims, "said data generator further generates navigation information supporting User navigation through said internal structure information and said

encompassing document structure using said table of contents." Claim 16 claims, *inter alia,* "internal and external sub-document hierarchies represent in a table of contents." Claim 18 claims, *inter alia*, "table of contents represents a hierarchical structure of said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure information." Claim 20 claims, "wherein the table of contents is represented as a hierarchical structure incorporating said internal structure information and said external structure information."

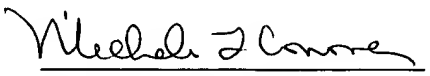
DeRose teaches a table of contents of an input document (see col. 16, lines 35-41). DeRose does not teach a table of contents representing internal structure information and encompassing document structure, essentially as claimed in claims 14, 16, 18 and 20. DeRose teaches a single input document. Thus any table of contents would merely represent an internal structure of the input document. DeRose does not teach related sub-documents and thus does not teach encompassing document structure, external sub-document hierarchies, or external structure information. DeRose fails to teach two or more input documents, and therefore encompassing document structure. Therefore, DeRose fails to teach that a data generator "generates navigation information supporting User navigation through said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure using said table of contents" essentially as claimed in claim 14, "internal and external sub-document hierarchies represented in a table of contents" as claimed in claim 16, a "table of contents represents a hierarchical structure of said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure information" as claimed in claim 18, or "wherein the table of contents is represented as a hierarchical structure incorporating said internal structure information and said external structure information" as claimed in claim 20.

The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the forgoing reasons, the present application, including claims 1-18 and 20, is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner's early and favorable action is respectfully urged.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: October 14, 2004



Michele L. Conover
Reg. No. 34,962
Attorney for Applicants

Mailing Address:
SIEMENS CORPORATION
Intellectual Property Department
5th Floor
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830
(732) 321-3191
(732) 321-3030 (FAX)